

What treasures of merit were not acquired before God by this modest young girl! in no way distinguished from her companions except by a more winning kindness towards all. So virtuous a life was not the result of an indifferent disposition, as we will see from the following quotation, April 11th, 1873: "My God! how
" proud I am still, how that offensive word has
" wounded my feelings! Did I not even feel
" a desire of revenge, but for Thy love, I wish to
" suffer all." In the evening she adds: "Thanks,
" my God! I said nothing, answered nothing, to
" that injury. I thanked that person for what
" she did, and I beg of you to bless her." In the month of October of the same year, our dear Ernestine followed for the last time the exercises of the annual retreat with her companions of the Academy. On the 21st, she writes as follows: "How happy I am! I am in retreat!
" My God, Thou who seest the depths of my soul
" Thou knowest how ardently I desire to make
" this retreat well. I beg of Thee to grant me the